

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JON-ERIK ROOSEVELT BOLDS, JR.,

Plaintiff,

v.

LUEVANOS, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:21-cv-01668-ADA-SAB (PC)

**ORDER REFERRING CASE TO POST-
SCREENING ADR AND STAYING CASE**

Hearing: **Settlement Conference**

Date: **December 7, 2022**

Time: **9:30 a.m.**

Judge: **Barbara A. McAuliffe**

Location: **via Zoom Videoconference**

Jon-Erik Roosevelt Bolds, Jr. (Plaintiff), a state prisoner, is proceeding pro se and in forma pauperis in this civil rights action filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. This action proceeds on Plaintiff's excessive force claims against Defendant Luevanos for the incident on May 28, 2021, against Defendants Luevanos, Valluas, Lucos, Magania, and Flores for the incident on September 21, 2021, and against Defendants Lucos, Sosa, Bailey, Rafferty, and Espericueta for retaliation.¹ (ECF No. 31.)

Because it takes years to get to trial, the Court has identified this case as an appropriate case for post-screening ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution), which is an effort to resolve such cases more expeditiously and less expensively. No claims, defenses, or objections shall be waived by the parties' participation.

¹ Defendants Magania and Valluas have not yet been served.

1 As set forth in the Court's screening order, the first amended complaint states cognizable
2 claims. However, stating cognizable claims does not mean Plaintiff will prevail at trial. Thus,
3 the Court stays this action to allow the parties to investigate Plaintiff's claims, meet and confer,
4 and then participate in a settlement conference.

5 Therefore, this case will be referred to Magistrate Judge Barbara A. McAuliffe to conduct
6 a **video settlement conference, via the Zoom videoconferencing application**, on December 7,
7 2022, at 9:30 a.m. The Court will issue any necessary transportation order in due course.

8 Counsel for Defendant shall contact Courtroom Deputy Esther Valdez at (559) 499-5788
9 or evaldez@caed.uscourts.gov for the video and dial-in information, including any necessary
10 passcodes, for all parties. Counsel for Defendants is also required to arrange for Plaintiff's
11 participation by contacting the Litigation Coordinator at the institution where Plaintiff is housed
12 and providing the necessary Zoom contact information.

13 In issuing this order, there is a presumption that this case will proceed to a settlement
14 conference.² However, if after investigating Plaintiff's claims and speaking with Plaintiff, and
15 after conferring with others, defense counsel in good faith finds that a settlement conference
16 would be a waste of resources, defense counsel may move to opt out of this early settlement
17 conference. A written notice to opt out must be filed within **thirty (30) days** of the date of the
18 issuance of this order.

19 The parties shall each submit to Judge McAuliffe a confidential settlement conference
20 statement, as described below, to arrive at least seven days (one week) prior to the conference.

21 The Court puts the parties on notice that if Plaintiff has any outstanding criminal
22 restitution obligation, fines and/or penalties, these settlement negotiations shall not be geared
23 towards what the restitution obligation is, but what the value of the case itself is to each side,
24 irrespective of any outstanding restitution obligation.

25 If Defendants do not elect to opt out of the settlement conference, Defendants shall be
26 prepared to negotiate the merits of the case and offer more than a waiver of costs as a reasonable
27 compromise to settle the case. The parties are also informed that an offer of dismissal in

28 ² If the case does not settle, the Court will then lift the stay of its Discovery and Scheduling Order or issue one
forthwith.

1 exchange for a waiver of costs is not considered good faith settlement negotiations.

2 In accordance with the above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 3 1. This action is STAYED to allow the parties an opportunity to settle their dispute before
4 the discovery process begins. Except as provided herein or by subsequent court order, no
5 other pleadings or other documents may be filed in this case during the stay of this action.
6 The parties shall not engage in formal discovery, but may engage in informal discovery
7 to prepare for the settlement conference.
- 8 2. This case is set for a video settlement conference, via the Zoom videoconferencing
9 application, before Magistrate Judge Barbara A. McAuliffe on **December 7, 2022 at**
10 **9:30 a.m.**
- 11 3. A representative with full and unlimited authority to negotiate and enter into a binding
12 settlement shall attend via the Zoom videoconferencing application.³
- 13 4. Those in attendance must be prepared to discuss the claims, defenses and damages. The
14 failure or refusal of any counsel, party or authorized person subject to this order to appear
15 in person may result in the cancellation of the conference and the imposition of sanctions.
16 The manner and timing of Plaintiff's transportation to and from the conference is within
17 the discretion of CDCR.
- 18 5. Defendants shall provide a confidential settlement statement to the following email
19 address: **bamorders@caed.uscourts.gov**. Plaintiff shall mail his confidential settlement
20 statement to U.S. District Court, 2500 Tulare Street, Fresno, California 93721,
21 **"Attention: Magistrate Judge Barbara A. McAuliffe."** The envelope shall be marked
22 **"Confidential Settlement Statement."** Settlement statements shall arrive no later than
23 **November 20, 2022**. Parties shall also file a Notice of Submission of Confidential
24 Settlement Statement (See Local Rule 270(d)). Settlement statements **should not be**
25 **filed** with the Clerk of the Court **nor served on any other party**. Settlement statements
26 shall be clearly marked "Confidential" with the date and time of the settlement
27 conference indicated prominently thereon.

28 ³ In light of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and the evolving coronavirus protocols, the Court may issue an order at a later date requiring the parties to appear in person.

- 1 6. The confidential settlement statement shall be **no longer than five pages** in length, typed
2 or neatly printed, and include the following:
 - 3 a. A brief statement of the facts of the case.
 - 4 b. A brief statement of the claims and defenses, i.e., statutory or other grounds upon
5 which the claims are founded; a forthright evaluation of the parties' likelihood of
6 prevailing on the claims and defenses; and a description of the major issues in
7 dispute.
 - 8 c. An estimate of the cost and time to be expended for further discovery, pretrial,
9 and trial.
 - 10 d. The party's position on settlement, including present demands and offers and a
11 history of past settlement discussions, offers, and demands.
 - 12 e. A brief statement of each party's expectations and goals for the settlement
13 conference, including how much a party is willing to accept and/or willing to pay.
 - 14 f. If parties intend to discuss the joint settlement of any other actions or claims not
15 in this suit, give a brief description of each action or claim as set forth above,
16 including case number(s) if applicable.
- 17 7. If a settlement is reached at any point during the stay of this action, the parties shall file a
18 Notice of Settlement in accordance with Local Rule 160.
- 19 8. If defense counsel wishes to "opt-out" of this settlement for the reasons stated above,
20 counsel must do so within **thirty (30) days** of this order by filing a "Notice of Opt-Out
21 and Request to Vacate Settlement Conference."
- 22 9. **If defense counsel does not wish to opt-out, defense counsel shall contact the**
23 **Litigation Coordinator at the institution where Plaintiff is housed to determine**
24 **whether the institution can accommodate a Zoom video appearance by Plaintiff at**
25 **this date and time.**
- 26 10. The parties remain obligated to keep the Court informed of their current address at all
27 times during the stay and while the action is pending. Any change of address must be
28 reported promptly to the Court in a separate document captioned for this case and entitled

1 “Notice of Change of Address.” See Local Rule 182(f).

2 11. **A failure to follow these procedures may result in the imposition of sanctions by the**
3 **court.**

4
5 IT IS SO ORDERED.

6 Dated: **September 27, 2022**


UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE